

Rare Plants of Louisiana



Agalinis linifolia - flax-leaf false-foxglove Figwort family (Scrophulariaceae)

Rarity Rank: S2/G4?

	1	2	3	4	5
State					
Global					
	imperiled		rare		secure

Range: AL, DE, FL, GA, LA, MS, NC, SC

Recognition:

- A hemi-parasitic herb with simple stems or with few erect branches, 0.4 to 1.5 m tall; plants blacken upon drying
- Our only perennial *Agalinis*, having rhizomes that bear remote scale-like leaves
- Leaves are opposite, linear, 2 to 5 cm long by 0.7 to 3 mm wide, gradually reduced in size above
- Flowers in terminal racemes, 8 to 20 flowers per raceme, flowers relatively well-spaced
- Pedicels (flower stalks) at least twice as long as the calyx, appressed to stiffly ascending, 4 to 25 mm long
- Corollas are violet-purple to pink with paler dots within and a soft pubescence on the outside; corollas 20 to 40 mm long



Flowering Time: September to October

Light Requirement: Full sun to light/partial shade

Wetland Indicator Status:

FACW- usually occurs in wetlands

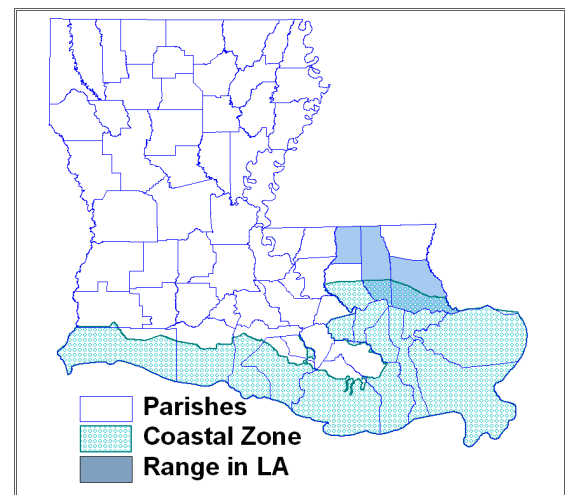
Habitat: Longleaf pine flatwoods savannahs.

Threats:

- Conversion of habitat to pine plantations, and concomitant threats such as chemical and mechanical site prep and dense tree spacing
- Residential and commercial development
- Lowering of the water table by ditching and drainage
- Fire exclusion or inappropriate fire timing

Beneficial Management Practices:

- Thinning (during very dry periods), targeting off-site species such as loblolly and slash pines for removal
- Prescribed burning, establishing a regime consisting of mostly growing season (May-June) burns



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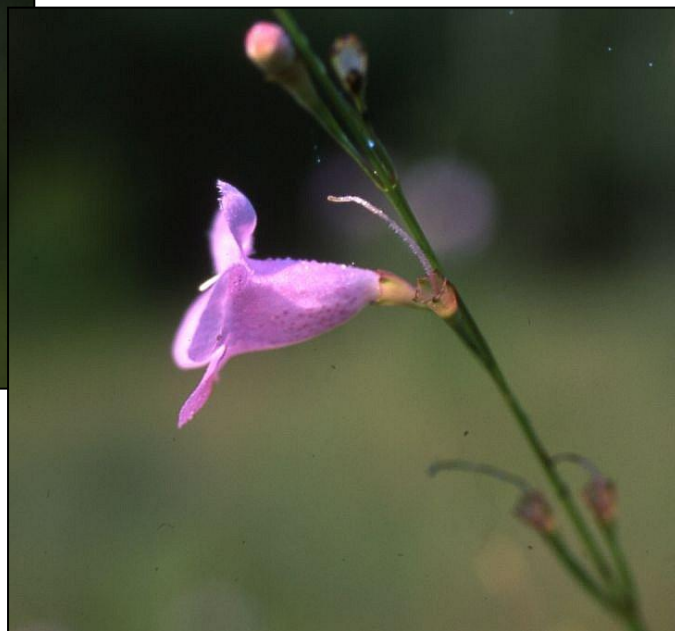
LA River Basins: Pearl, Pontchartrain



Above: Front view of *Agalinis linifolia*

Right: Side view of *A. linifolia*.

Photos by John Hays



References:

Godfrey, R. K. and J. W. Wooten. 1981. Aquatic and wetland plants of southeastern United States: dicotyledons. University of Georgia Press. Athens, GA. 933 pp.

NatureServe. 2007. NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 6.2. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia. Available at <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>.

Vincent, K. A. 1982. Scrophulariaceae of Louisiana. M.S. Thesis, University of Southwestern Louisiana. Lafayette, LA.

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For more information, please visit our Web pages at

www.wlf.la.gov/wildlife/louisiana-natural-heritage-program or 225-765-2811

www.BTNEP.org or 1-800-259-0869